



Purpose - Passion - Pride

**U.S.D. #350 St.**  
505 N. Broadway St. John, KS 67576

April 2015

## Superintendent's Corner

**SCHOOL FUNDING** has been a hot topic in this legislative session. Legislators recently passed a new school funding system where schools will be provided a block of money instead of basing school funding on needs and actual costs. They say this block grant funding is intended to be a "time out" in the school finance battle and freeze funding levels for two years.

With what we know now, this block grant bill should leave us in a decent financial position for the next two years. However, legislators do not yet have a viable plan to pay for this school funding proposal. This 65-page bill was pushed through both the house and senate in just one week. The hasty passage of such a complex bill likely means that many of the issues and problems have yet to be discovered. We have a long way to go before we know what we will have to work with for next year's school budget.

The value of property in the school district will present us with an added challenge in the upcoming budget year. Nearly half of our property valuation is in oil and gas. Since oil prices have dropped dramatically over the past year, we can expect our overall property valuation in USD 350 to decrease significantly.

When property value decreases, this affects local tax revenue used to fund our schools. A decrease in property value means a decrease in the budget or an increase in the mill levy. The end result could be a combination of the two. Specific figures are not available now, but it is something the board of education will be looking at over the next few months.

**THREE PEAT.** In case you missed it, the Tigers won their third state championship in boys' basketball this year. We are all incredibly proud of these young men and their coaches. Not only for winning, but for doing things the right way with hard work, teamwork, and positive attitudes. These boys have served as great representatives of the St. John-Hudson community. While athletics is only a small part of what we do here at USD 350, the excitement around this kind of success is a positive for our school district.

**RETIREMENTS.** Recently, four of USD 350's long-time teachers announced their intention to retire at the end of the year. Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Frink, Mrs. Pound, and Ms. Wibright will be turning over their classrooms to another teacher next year. While it is difficult to lose quality experience like this, these ladies have certainly earned some time for themselves. We are working hard to find the best candidates to take fill these roles.

**BOE ELECTIONS.** School board and city elections are coming up on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Government at the local level is typically the most responsive to citizen concerns. So it is important that we have the best people representing us in city and school offices. I encourage everyone to do their part and cast their vote in the upcoming election. Please get out and vote.

**PRESCHOOL SCREENING.** The board of education established the goal to offer preschool to all children in our district starting at age three. This year we were able to meet that goal and we will continue our focus on early childhood education next year.

All students must be screened before they can attend preschool. Students who have already been screened in past years do not need to be screened again. Preschool screening will be held at the Church of Christ, 609 North Pearl, in St. John, on Tuesday, April 14, 2015. Kindergarten roundup will be at the same location on Friday, April 17, 2015. Please contact the elementary office with any questions about preschool or Kindergarten enrollment.

As always, if you'd like to visit about any of these topics or have other questions or concerns, I can be reached at 620-549-3564 or meyerj@usd350.com. I am proud to be a Tiger and proud to serve USD 350 with *Purpose, Passion, and Pride*.

-Josh Meyer – USD 350 Superintendent





# Play On!



A Comedy by Rick Abbot with  
Permission From Samuel French

Come join us at the St. John Junior-Senior play:

**Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM**

or

**Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM**

The publishing company, Samuel French, Inc., 45 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10010, has granted the rights to St. John High School allowing us to perform the comedy, ***Play On!***, by playwright **Rick Abbot**. This is a very funny play which involves a plot about putting on a play. It is hilarious. It has been very difficult for our characters to play it straight-faced as they are often giggling at their own lines. **Brandi Hanson** plays "Aggie Manville," the stage manager in the community theater group's little production. **Brooke Shultz** plays "Gerry Dunbar," the harried and harassed community theater director who faces many frustrations as she deals with her actors' personalities and the idiosyncrasies of the author of the play-within-the-play herself, "Phyllis Montague," a novice playwright who keeps changing lines and scenes even through dress rehearsal, **Andrea McCall**.

**Giovana Valenzuela** plays "Louise Perry," a sound technician who can't seem to get her sound effects in the right order. **Christy Garcia** is "Bobbi Ryan," a scenic technician whose frustrations mount as she is forced to gather up coffee cups instead of being the technician she wants to be.

The other six characters are really two roles each, as each one plays a character in the main play who is playing a character in the "inner play" entitled ***Murder Most Foul!*** **Allen Schwein** is "Henry Benish" who plays "Lord Dudley"; **Isabella Martinez Haskins** is "Polly Benish" who plays "Lady Margaret"; **Estrella Fernandez** is "Smitty Smith" who portrays "Doris the Maid"; **Jeremy Crockett** is "Saul Watson" who plays "Dr. Rex Forbes, a villain"; **Dean Wade** is "Billy Carewe" who plays "Stephen Sellers, a young man"; and **Marsena Irvine** is "Violet Imbrey" who portrays "Diana Lassiter, a ditzzy ingénue."

Others who will show up in one way or another as comic relief (as if we needed more!) are **Gera Calleros**, **Nathan Ward**, and perhaps a couple of others. They will also double as grips, aided by **Andrew Deveney**.

In the Sound and Light Booth will be **Cody Haberman** (sound) and **Audrey Mercer** (lights). Helping them will be **Dylan Huffman** and **Zach Claussen**.

**Ashlyn Fisher** is serving her last "term" as our loyal Student Director. **Cindy Crockett** is our talented costumer.

Please come and see our students in this truly zany play!

**Wendy Hacker and Jane Bennington, Director and Producer**

# OFF THE SHELF

Ida Long Goodman Memorial

April 2015



## Friends of the Library Book Sale

### LOTS OF USED BOOKS AND MORE

*We've been saving items for two years!*

#### PREVIEW SALE

Thursday, April 30, 2015

3:00-6:00 PM

Admission \$1.00

(Friends of the Library Members—FREE)

#### Bag Sale

Friday, May 1, 2015

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Saturday, May 2, 2015

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library

406 N. Monroe

St. John, KS 67576

For more information call 620-549-3227 or e-mail [ILGML@usd350.com](mailto:ILGML@usd350.com)

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Knapp

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Make your best  
guess by April 16  
to enter NLW  
drawing.

How long is the  
bookshelf space at  
the Library of  
Congress?  
a. 838 miles  
b. 20 miles  
c. 150 miles  
d. 546 miles



# Monarchs and Pollinators



**When:** Thursday, April 2, 2015

**Where:** Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library, St. John

**Time:** 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm



Monarchs are well-known and loved butterflies, but they and many other pollinators have suffered population declines in recent years. Learn more about them, their conservation, and how you can help.

This program is free and open to everyone. For more information, call Barry Jones at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, 620-486-2393, or the library at 620-549-3227.



### Library Job Opening

La Biblioteca Memorial de Ida Long Goodman esta buscando empleado para la Biblioteca. La caridata ideal va a demostrar competencia en busquedas de referencia y conocimiento del sistema Dewey. Un extrovertido personalidad sociable con habilidades Fuertes en servicio con clients y trabajo en equipo tambien es ideal. Experiencia del Biblioteca previo es una ventaja, al igual un segun idioma como español. Requerido es una diploma del escuela preparatoria. Este trababajo de medio tiempo es mas o menos 34-37 horas la semana, y puede incluir noches y algunos Domingos. El salario es \$8 por hora. Para aplicar, porfavor levantan un aplicacación y descripción del trabajo en la Biblioteca Memorial de Ida Long Goodman, 406 N. Monroe, St. John. Lo mas pronto posible.

Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library is seeking a Library Clerk. The ideal candidate will demonstrate proficiency in reference searches, e-readers, & emerging technology, plus an interest in popular literature and a knowledge of the Dewey system. An outgoing, friendly personality with strong skills in customer service and teamwork is also ideal. Previous library experience is a plus, as is a second language such as Spanish. High School Diploma or its equivalent is required. This part time position averages 34-37 hours a week, and may include evenings, and some Sundays. Wage is \$8 an hour. To apply, please pick up an application and job description at Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library, 406 N. Monroe, St. John. Open until filled.



## Mommy and Me (Oh, and Daddy too) Library Visits

For those of you who have infant to 3 year olds (not all ready attending preschool) the *Mommy and Me class* has begun. Songs, finger plays, and of course books and stories will help you connect with your little one and other Moms, Dads or caregivers. Cindy Allen, former Learning to Bridges preschool teacher, will be leading the activities.

The class will meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 10:30 to 11:00 am while school is in session. The next session is on April 7 with the theme, *Hippity Hoppity*. Call the library or e-mail us with your name, child(ren) and contact information. [ilgml@usd350.com](mailto:ilgml@usd350.com) or (620)549-3227

April 7	Hippity, Hoppity
April 21	Planting Time!
May 5	Moms Are the Best
May 19	Summer Fun!

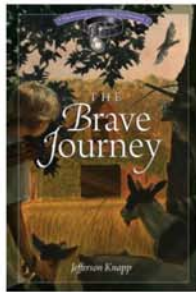
## An Invitation to Serve Your Library

The library depends on citizen involvement to ensure that its services are as reflective of community needs as possible. Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library Board is a 6-member board appointed by the mayor. As a policy-making body, it guides the development of library services. Terms on the board are four years. The board meets on the second Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Effective trustees bring to the library knowledge of the community, a commitment to the rights of citizens to information, and willingness to continually maintain and strengthen library services in the St. John area. If you are interested in serving on the Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library Board, please contact the Library Director, Christie Snyder. This expression of interest will make your name available for consideration by the mayor at the time of a vacancy but will not, of course, guarantee appointment. For more information, please contact the library at 620-549-3227 or [ilgml@usd350.com](mailto:ilgml@usd350.com).

Children's book author Jefferson Knapp is going to help kick off National Library Week and the Read-Around-the-Square event by visiting our school on Monday, April 13. Growing up as a Kansas country boy in the 80's, Jefferson quickly found out that Atari games grew repetitive and boring, forcing him to make up his own adventures outside. Your child will learn how Jefferson took his boyhood home surroundings, his pets, (and even some former teachers) and, using his imagination, created the world of his AR-approved fantasy series, *The Kingdom at the End of the Driveway*. His first book, *The Brave Journey*, reached #3 on Amazon in the summer of 2012!

Pre-orders are being taken for discounted / autographed (a personalized message will be written to you!) copies of *The Kingdom at the End of the Driveway* series. Please circle the book(s) you're ordering.

**Book One**  
THE  
*Brave Journey*



**Book Two**  
THE  
*Rightful Heir*



**Book Three**  
THE  
*Ending Feud*



Who you want the book(s) signed to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Price - \$15 / each

We accept Cash / Credit Card / *Check made out to:* **Kraken Books, Ltd.**



Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ MM/YY \_\_\_\_\_

CVV (3 or 4-digit code on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

*Scan the QR Code to watch the book trailers!*     *Buy a Bookmark for only 50 Cents!*



## ISIS Book Study Starting

In Yemen this past week, over 130 Shiite Muslims were killed by suicide bombs while saying Friday prayers in a mosque. ISIS, a Sunni Muslim group, has taken responsibility for the attack. Why do the two major branches of Islam commit mass murder against one another? Why do both groups demonize the United States?

The ISIS book study will start with a book about the early history of Islam and the roots of the Shia/Sunni split. For the first meeting, read either *After the Prophet: The Epic Story of the Shia-Sunni Split* or *No god but God: The Origins, Evolution and Future of Islam*. These books are available in paperback, ebook and the library has borrowed copies for the group. Notify Christie and she'll save you a copy.

Mary Pat Haddican is organizing the group. If you are interested, notify the library and we will get you in contact with her. No date has been set for the discussion of the book. After everyone picks up their books, it'll be 3 or 4 weeks before the first meeting. Mary Pat will need to know your preference for a meeting time: noon, evenings or weekends? The group will settle on a time available to most, preferably all, of those who have expressed an interest. The discussion is open to an interested parties. Join us!

Library Closed April 3rd—5th

Happy Easter 





# April 2015



**JH Track Meet CHANGE:**  
**April 9:** Track meet is at Barton County College—hosted by Central Plains—(NO TRACK MEET at Spearville)  
**CPL Art Show CHANGE:** rescheduled to Wed., April 22

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>March</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>		1	2	3	4
5	<p>6</p> <p>1:00pm Varsity Golf @ Auburn Hills - Wichita</p> <p>Pre-Dress Rehearsal</p> <p>FCCLA STATE @ WICHITA</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4:00pm FR/SO Track @ Ellinwood</p> <p>Rehearsal Run-Through</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:20pm School Dismissal</p> <p>Staff Development</p> <p>10:30am CPL League Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>2:00pm Varsity Golf @ McPherson</p> <p>3:00pm JH Track @ BCCC (change of location)</p> <p>Dress Rehearsal</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3:30 pm HS Track @ Lyons</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:30pm Jr/Sr Play</p>
12	<p>13</p> <p>3:00pm JV Golf @ Kinsley</p> <p>7:00pm BOE Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4:00pm JH Track - St. John Invitational</p> <p>National Library Worker's Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00am Varsity Golf (H)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00am State Large Group Music @ Pratt</p> <p>3:00pm JH Track @ Stafford</p>	<p>17</p> <p>3:00pm HS Track @ Spearville</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00pm Jr/Sr Prom</p> <p>ACT Exam</p>
19	<p>20</p> <p>3:00pm Varsity Golf @ Sterling</p> <p>6:30pm JH All-Sports Booster Club Banquet</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4:00pm Fr/So Track - St. John Invitational</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Administrative Professionals Day</p> <p>Progress Reports</p> <p>8:30am CPL Art Show @ BCCC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00am JH Track @ LaCrosse</p>	<p>24</p> <p>4:00PM Keith Blade Track Meet</p>	<p>25</p> <p>State Solos and Small Ensembles</p>
26	<p>27</p> <p>3:00pm JV Golf @ Clafflin</p> <p>3:00pm Varsity Golf @ Derby</p>	<p>28</p> <p>3:00pm HS Track @ Larned</p> <p>7:00pm 5/6 Spring Concert</p>	<p>29</p> <p>3:00pm Spring Sports Pictures</p> <p>National Walk at Lunch Day</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:00pm Varsity Golf @ Hesston</p> <p>4:00pm JH Track @ Ellinwood</p>	<p>FOL BOOK SALE</p>	
						<p>May</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>

PROM DECORATING - 4:00 PM

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

# APRIL 2015

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
				<b>1 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>2 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>3 BREAKFAST</b>	
				Breakfast Burrito Pears Apple Juice Cereal Milk		French Toast Sticks Peaches Pineapple/Orange Juice Cereal Milk		NO SCHOOL!	
				<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>	
				Chicken Quesadilla Refried Beans Baby Carrots Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Milk		Cowboy Cavatini Tossed Salad Baby Carrots Pears Fresh Fruit French Bread Milk		GOOD FRIDAY!!!	
<b>6 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>7 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>8 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>9 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>10 BREAKFAST</b>	
Pancake on a Stick Pineapple Grape Juice Cereal Milk		Breakfast Pizza Mixed Fruit Orange Juice Cereal Milk		Flat out Bread Pears Pineapple/Orange Juice Cereal Milk		Biscuits & Gravy Peaches Apple Juice Cereal Milk		Banana Bread Applesauce Fruit Juice Blend Cereal Milk	
<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>	
Chicken Patty Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Taco Soup Relish Plate Pineapple Fresh Fruit Tortilla Chips Milk		Chicken Fried Steak Potatoes & Gravy Peas Peaches Hot Roll Milk		Spaghetti Lettuce Salad Green Beans Pears Fresh Fruit French Bread Milk		Hamburger/Bun French Fries Baby Carrots Pears Fresh Fruit Milk	
<b>13 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>14 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>15 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>16 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>17 BREAKFAST</b>	
Breakfast Bites Pears Grape Juice Cereal Milk		Pop Tart Peaches Apple Juice Cereal Milk		Breakfast Burrito Pineapple Pineapple/Orange Juice Cereal Milk		French Toast Sticks Mixed Fruit Orange Juice Cereal Milk		Breakfast Bar Applesauce Fruit Juice Blend Cereal Milk	
<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>	
Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Lettuce Salad Broccoli Applesauce Cookie Fresh Fruit Milk		Chicken Nuggets Potatoes & Gravy Peas Mixed Fruit Hot Roll Fresh Fruit Milk		Sloppy Joe/Bun French Fries Baby Carrots Peaches Fresh Fruit Milk		Huntington Chicken Lettuce Salad Green Beans Pears Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Soft Taco Lettuce & Tomatoes Refried Beans Pineapple Fresh Fruit Milk	
<b>20 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>21 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>22 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>23 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>24 BREAKFAST</b>	
Pancake on a Stick Pears Grape Juice Cereal Milk		Breakfast Pizza Mixed Fruit Apple Juice Cereal Milk		Flat out Bread Pineapple Pineapple/Orange Juice Cereal Milk		Biscuits & Gravy Peaches Fruit Juice Blend Cereal Milk		Banana Bread Mixed Fruit Orange Juice Cereal Milk	
<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>	
Meat Balls Macaroni & Cheese Peas Baby Carrots Applesauce Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk		Chicken Fajita Lettuce & Tomatoes Refried Beans Pineapple Fresh Fruit Milk		Chicken Strips Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Cheeseburger/Bun French Fries Broccoli Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Milk		Italian Flat Bread Lettuce Salad Corn Pears Birthday Cake Fresh Fruit Milk	
<b>27 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>28 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>29 BREAKFAST</b>		<b>30 BREAKFAST</b>			
Breakfast Bites Pears Grape Juice Cereal Milk		Pop Tart Pineapple Apple Juice Cereal Milk		Breakfast Burrito Peaches Fruit Juice Blend Cereal Milk		French Toast Sticks Applesauce Pineapple/Orange Juice Cereal Milk			
<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>			
Burrito Lettuce & Tomatoes Corn Pineapple Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk		Salisbury Steak Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Sausage Pizza Broccoli Baby Carrots Pears Fresh Fruit Milk		Chicken & Noodles Whipped Potatoes Broccoli Mixed Fruit Hot Roll Milk			

1st Annual  
**Elementary**  
**CARNIVAL**  
hosted by St. John PTO



**Saturday, April 25th**  
**3:00 pm — 6:00 pm**

**Games &  
Prizes**

**Face Painting &  
Photo Booth**

**\$0.25 / ticket**

**Inflatables**

**Concessions**

- |          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Pizza    | Popcorn      |
| Hot Dogs | Ice Cream    |
| Pop      | Cotton Candy |



USD #350 ST JOHN  
505 N BROADWAY  
ST JOHN KS 67576

*ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED*

POSTAL CUSTOMER

**An invitation to  
Take a break, bring a book, and READ**



**At the 4th Annual**

**READ-IN AROUND THE SQUARE**



**Drop Everything And Read  
with the  
St. John Elementary Students**

**On Monday, April 13th, at 2:30 PM  
at the St. John City Square**

**(If the weather doesn't cooperate, the Read-In will move to the library.)**

